

2402.20.10

CONDITIONAL ENTRANT REFUGEE

Section 203(a)(7) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) in effect before April 1, 1980, provides conditional entrant refugee status for persons who, because of persecution or fear of persecution on account of race, religion, or political opinion, have fled from a Communist or Communist-dominated country or from the area of the Middle East or who are refugees from natural catastrophes. (Section 203(a)(7) of the INA was replaced by Section 207 effective April 1, 1980.)

Effective October 1, 2026, per Section 71109 of the 2025 Budget Reconciliation Act, individuals admitted as a conditional entrant refugee are eligible for full Medicaid coverage only after they adjust to a qualified non-citizen status or meet a federal exemption (Refer to 2402.20.00). **Conditional entrant refugees who adjust to LPR status are exempt from the 5-year bar. (Note a person entering the U.S. on and after 8/22/96 will not be given this USCIS status, since it is no longer in effect.)**

Verification is established by viewing USCIS Form I-94, Arrival-Departure Record, bearing the stamped legend "Refugee - CONDITIONAL ENTRY" and citing the section of the INA under which they were admitted, or USCIS Form I-688B annotated "274a.12(a)(3)" or I-766 annotated "A1",
"A3".

Note: Individuals who fail to attain or adjust to a federally qualified status should be transitioned to Emergency Services Only Medicaid coverage (ESO) (Refer to 2402.20.50).